

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

FINAL RESULTS OF CEREAL AND HAY HARVEST, 1939-40.

WHEAT 1939-40 - 40,984,726 Bush. Aver. per acre 14.97 Bush.
 WHEAT 1938-39 - 31,674,418 Bush. Aver. per acre 10.28 Bush.

There are still a few minor Wheat Districts where the completion of the collection has been delayed and a number of odd returns from farmers in other Districts outstanding, but, rather than further delay the final results, a safe estimate has been made for all these and hence the totals now submitted may be accepted subject to slight alteration.

I. GENERAL REMARKS.

The Official December Forecast gave an estimated yield of 35,000,000 bushels, but the actual returns now collected give a yield of 40,984,726 bushels. Heavy rains fell during the first few days of November, followed by cool damp weather during November and December. Reaping was considerably delayed and, because of the long maturing season, the grain had filled out. Towards the end of Harvest, reports were received referring to the crops yielding much better than anticipated, record yields, plump grain, &c. The Lower North Agricultural Adviser reported that the splendid finish to a tricky season meant an increase of several million bushels on October Estimates in his district alone - as a matter of fact there was an increase of 4 million bushels in his districts. However, as mentioned in the December Bulletin, the rains were too late to greatly benefit the crops in the Murray Mallee and the Northern Districts of the Western and Upper North Divisions. The standard f.a.q. weight of wheat was fixed at 64 lbs. per bushel, compared with the record of $64\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. for the previous year.

The total wheat yield is the highest except for 1916-17 and 1931-32, and the barley and oats yields are much above the previous record, the total bushels of grain from these 3 cereals being approx. the same as the previous record in 1931-32.

II. GROWERS AND ACREAGE SOWN.

WHEAT GROWERS - There were 13,228 (13,610) growers of Wheat for all purposes for the season 1939-40 and of this number 12,299 (12,585) reaped areas for grain, 1,779 (1,645) reaped areas of under 50 acres. Share farmers are counted once only.

ACREAGE - The grand total acreage sown to Wheat, Barley and Oats for all purposes was 4,341,341 (4,547,079) acres, a decrease on the previous year of 205,738 acres.

WHEAT - 2,950,387 (3,344,264) acres - Grain 2,736,920 (3,080,401) acres, Hay 197,544 (227,604), Fed off etc. 15,923 (36,259).

BARLEY - 558,655 (505,345) acres - Grain 503,939 (457,039) acres, Hay 8,013 (4,948) and Fed off, etc. 46,703 (43,358).

OATS - 832,299 (697,470) acres - Grain 347,953 (266,842) acres, Hay 302,788 (270,425), and Fed off etc. 181,558 (160,203).

III. PRODUCTION AND AVERAGES PER ACRE.

WHEAT - 40,984,726 (31,674,418) Bushels, Increase 9,310,308 bushels - averaging 14.97 (10.28) Bushels per acre.

BARLEY - 9,786,465 (7,541,090) Bushels, Increase 2,245,375 bushels - averaging 19.42 (16.50) Bushels per acre.

OATS - 4,041,273 (2,401,128) Bushels, Increase 1,640,145 bushels - averaging 11.61 (9.00) Bushels per acre.

HAY (Wheaten, Oaten and Barley) - 607,526 (562,806) tons, increase 44,720 tons - averaging 1.20 (1.12) tons per acre.

Distributed as follows - Wheaten 264,372 (293,681), Oaten 334,912 (264,362), Barley 8,242 (4,763) tons.

IV. BENEFITS FROM FALLOWING.

Of last season's Wheat crop 2,156,957 (2,343,088) acres sown on fallow yielded 35,770,257 (27,602,778) bushels averaging 16.58 (11.78) bushels per acre and 579,963 (737,313) acres sown on unfallowed land yielded 5,214,469 (4,071,640) bushels averaging only 8.99 (5.52) bushels per acre, thus making the State average 14.97 (10.28) bushels per acre.

The following return illustrates the benefit from cropping wheat on fallowed land.

Grown on	Wheat Yield per acre				
	1939-40	1938-39	1937-38	1936-37	1935-36
Fallow	Bush. 16.58	Bush. 11.78	Bush. 15.84	Bush. 11.22	Bush. 12.81
Not fallowed	8.99	5.52	7.92	4.74	5.34
Total	14.97	10.28	13.73	9.39	10.58
RAINFALL - April-Nov.	Inches 13.62	Inches 10.00	Inches 11.38	Inches 10.00	Inches 12.08

V. RAINFALL - The mean monthly rainfall over the Agricultural Areas of the State is specially computed and recorded in comparison with the averages for the previous 34 years. The following are the particulars in inches of the rainfall from April to November in each Division.

Year	Whole State	Central	Lower North	Upper North	South East.	Western	Murray Mallee
RAINFALL	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.	Ins.
1939	13.62	17.09	13.38	10.58	20.93	12.27	9.73
1938	10.00	12.28	9.67	7.04	15.29	9.38	7.28
Av. 5 years	11.42	14.60	10.89	7.54	17.92	10.32	8.83
" 34 "	12.50	15.88	12.12	8.74	19.26	10.97	10.29
Wheat Yield	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.
1939-40	14.97	18.45	21.99	17.46	22.71	12.23	6.03
1938-39	10.28	14.65	14.99	5.70	15.09	8.57	5.86
Av. 5 years	11.74	15.57	16.30	9.82	20.08	8.84	7.79
" 34 "	10.47	13.18	14.37	9.10	13.35	6.88	7.32

VI. AREA INTENDED TO BE CROPPED, 1940-41.

At the time, mainly during February and March, when particulars of the actual harvest results were being collected from the farmers, they were asked to indicate the areas they intended to sow for the coming season. These enquiries indicated that -at that time - they intended to sow the following areas for grain, hay and fodder - Wheat 2,900,000 acres, decrease 50,000; barley 545,000 acres decrease 13,000; and oats 855,000 acres increase 23,000; a total of 4,300,000 acres, decrease 40,000.

Compared with 10 years ago, the above figures show a decrease of 1,600,000 acres under wheat, and increases of 300,000 acres for barley and 300,000 acres for oats, the net decrease for these 3 cereals being 1,000,000 acres. During the same period, the number of cattle in the State have increased by 100,000 and sheep by 4,000,000.

It might be mentioned, also, that only 51% of the 1930-31 acreage for wheat for grain was fallowed, but for 1939-40 it was 79%.

A. W. BOWDEN,

Statistical Office,
ADELAIDE.
21st May, 1940.

GOVERNMENT STATIST.

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

FINAL RESULTS OF CEREALS AND HAY, 1939-40.

WHEAT 1939-40-Acres 2,736,920 Yield 40,984,726 Bush. Aver. 14.97 Bush.
 WHEAT 1938-39-Acres 3,080,401 Yield 31,674,418 Bush. Aver. 10.28 Bush.

1. ACREAGE CROPPED.

Divisions	Total Wheat Barley Oats Acres	G R A I N			Hay (W.B.O.) Acres	Fed off Areas (W.B.O.) Acres
		Wheat Acres	Barley Acres	Oats Acres		
Central	938,749	451,024	268,398	40,187	148,838	30,302
Lower North	978,020	692,994	111,039	36,274	101,206	36,507
Upper North	285,129	244,103	2,737	5,323	31,332	1,634
South Eastern	119,044	32,157	17,830	31,324	31,673	6,060
Western	1,128,218	723,264	45,955	161,257	100,178	97,564
Murray Mallee	892,181	593,378	57,980	73,588	95,118	72,117
Total 1939-40	4,341,341	2,736,920	503,939	347,953	508,345	244,184
Total 1938-39	4,547,079	3,080,401	457,039	266,842	502,977	239,820
Increase or Decrease	-205,738	-343,481	46,900	81,111	5,368	4,364

2. PRODUCTION OF GRAIN AND HAY.

Divisions	G R A I N						Hay
	Wheat		Barley		Oats		(W.B.O.)
	Bush.	Av.	Bush.	Av.	Bush.	Av.	Tons
Central	8,323,246	18.45	5,870,720	21.87	645,292	16.06	222,058
Lower North	15,239,969	21.99	2,178,243	19.62	674,820	18.60	137,613
Upper North	4,263,218	17.46	40,285	14.72	106,890	20.08	44,531
South Eastern	730,164	22.71	409,099	22.94	633,288	20.22	46,216
Western	8,848,174	12.23	826,417	17.98	1,554,355	9.64	87,732
Murray Mallee	3,579,955	6.03	461,701	7.96	426,628	5.80	69,376
Total 1939-40	40,984,726	14.97	9,786,465	19.42	4,041,273	11.61	607,526
Total 1938-39	31,674,418	10.28	7,541,090	16.50	2,401,128	9.00	562,806
Increase	9,310,308	4.69	2,245,375	2.92	1,640,145	2.61	44,720

3. FIVE YEARS' COMPARISON.

Year	W H E A T			Rainfall Agric. April- Nov. Inches	Value of Overseas Exports	
	Area Bush.	Yield Bush.	Aver. per Acre Bush.		Wheat & Flour £	Barley £
1934-35	3,188,225	27,455,600	8.61	11.97	4,139,633	345,550
1935-36	2,989,490	31,615,744	10.58	12.08	4,510,137	352,265
1936-37	3,058,457	28,714,653	9.39	10.00	4,944,881	432,079
1937-38	3,161,739	43,428,423	13.73	11.38	6,924,187	746,661
1938-39	3,080,401	31,674,418	10.28	10.00	3,030,461	279,311
Mean	3,095,662	32,577,768	10.52	11.09	4,709,860	431,173
1939-40	2,736,920	40,984,726	14.97	13.62	1,329,425 (a)	88,804 (a)

(a) Nine months.

A. W. BOWDEN,
GOVERNMENT STATIST.

Statistical Office,
ADELAIDE.
21st May, 1940.

GRAIN AND HAY IN COUNTIES, 1939-40.

County	W H E A T			BARLEY	OATS	HAY (W.B.O.)
	Area Acres	Yield Bush.	Av. per acre Bush.			
Adelaide	7,289	132,419	18.17	247,276	27,714	46,692
Carnarvon	816	13,932	17.07	143,524	10,668	2,236
Eyre	67,745	386,290	5.70	19,267	31,575	7,189
Fergusson	126,757	3,000,620	23.67	4,105,948	137,673	27,352
Gawler	102,622	2,203,160	21.47	833,759	142,794	51,461
Hindmarsh	10,530	200,889	19.08	157,996	55,773	16,218
Light	79,342	1,631,379	20.56	248,078	134,816	53,327
Sturt	55,923	754,557	13.49	114,872	104,279	17,583
Burra	31,975	486,775	15.22	10,078	24,192	4,864
Daly	260,221	5,300,444	20.37	1,629,413	183,465	49,003
Kimberley	4,345	28,762	6.62	62	3,300	147
Stanley	217,651	5,466,659	25.12	333,671	336,075	45,186
Victoria	178,802	3,957,329	22.13	205,019	127,788	38,413
Blachford	3,901	49,827	12.77	-	834	412
Dalhousie	75,584	1,419,781	18.78	15,128	46,797	11,780
Frome	130,642	2,460,357	18.83	24,754	55,839	29,327
Granville	2,646	18,866	7.13	-	144	81
Hanson	10,448	94,857	9.08	-	1,686	952
Herbert	3,018	17,159	5.69	-	570	51
Newcastle	17,864	202,371	11.33	403	1,020	1,928
Buckingham	22,943	573,940	25.02	133,065	419,328	14,117
Cardwell	2,058	23,474	11.41	25,557	17,130	1,766
Grey	505	9,866	19.54	181,480	111,655	20,422
MacDonnell	4,392	84,927	19.34	49,127	57,972	3,905
Robe	2,259	37,957	16.80	19,870	27,203	6,006
Bosanquet	4,100	40,582	9.90	-	3,960	255
Buxton	66,205	650,920	9.83	11,408	87,336	11,209
Dufferin	57,526	584,307	10.16	1,531	129,936	2,844
Flinders	60,026	1,178,426	19.63	396,236	246,102	14,325
Hopetoun	7,632	46,837	6.14	186	18,921	400
Hore-Ruthven	-	-	-	-	-	60
Jervois	187,536	2,582,503	13.77	135,496	409,812	27,138
Kintore	23,738	223,123	9.40	-	42,606	1,711
Le Hunte	94,545	903,154	9.55	24,467	126,807	10,714
Musgrave	49,653	761,959	15.35	201,833	137,769	8,556
Robinson	103,627	1,195,678	11.54	50,328	269,326	6,427
Way	68,566	680,443	9.92	4,932	81,780	4,093
York	110	242	2.20	-	-	-
Albert	152,730	718,371	4.70	15,429	77,403	7,708
Alfred	183,987	1,141,156	6.20	16,923	83,025	15,026
Buccleuch	94,138	607,907	6.46	251,010	153,678	21,004
Chandos	126,825	913,310	7.20	118,861	46,629	16,102
Hamley	4,000	7,000	1.75	-	150	525
Russell	22,883	168,685	7.37	58,914	60,469	8,770
Young	8,815	23,526	2.67	564	5,274	241
Divisions:						
Central	451,024	8,323,246	18.45	5,870,720	645,292	222,058
Lower North	692,994	15,239,969	21.99	2,178,243	674,820	137,613
Upper North	244,103	4,263,218	17.46	40,285	106,890	44,531
South Eastern	32,157	730,164	22.71	409,099	633,288	46,216
Western	723,264	8,848,174	12.23	826,417	1,554,355	87,732
Murray Mallee	593,378	3,579,955	6.03	461,701	426,628	69,376
GRAND TOTAL						
1939-40	2,736,920	40,984,726	14.97	9,786,465	4,041,273	607,526
1938-39	3,080,401	31,674,418	10.28	7,541,090	2,401,128	562,806